**Coal reservts in the country**

16. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of good quality coal and inferior coal reserves in the total coal reserves of the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that coal reserves beyond 300 metres are generally of good quality;

(c) if so, whether there is any long term planning to extract such reserves of coal in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) As per information available from geological Survey of India (GSI), estimates in percentage terms of quality-wise coal reserves of the country as on 1.1.1994 for coal seams having thickness 0.9 metre and above, down to depth of 1200 metres, are given below:

(in percentage

| Proved & Indicated Reserves | | | Inferred Reserves |
|---|---|---|---|
| Coking | Non-coking | | |
| | Superior | Inferior | |
| 14.23 | 11.36 | 52.69 | 21.72 |

(b) to (e) Quality of coal reserves does not necessarily depend on depth as different coalfields exhibit different trends. The depth of exploitation of coal reserves varies depending upon factors like thickness and gradient of coal seams, coal quality and other geomining parametres including inter-se configuration of various seams in a given deposit/block. In future with the exhaustion of shallow reserves more and more deeper reserves will be exploited.

**Investment in underground coal mines**

17. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 5274 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 1994 and state:

(a) whether the amount of the investment given therein is for the year 1993-94 or upto the year 1993-94; and

(b) if the figure is for the year 1993-94, what is the investment done upto the year 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Amount of investment given in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5274 on 2nd May, 1994 is upto the year 1993-94.

(b) Does not arise.

**Investment in Open Cast Mines**

18. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 5268 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 1994 and state:

(a) whether the figures of investment were for the year 1993-94 only; and